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In the Abstract:

A valve prosthesis for implantation in the body by use of a catheter includes a stent made from an expandable cylinder-shaped thread structure having ~~including~~ several spaced apices. The elastically collapsible valve is mounted on the stent as the commissural points of the valve are secured to the projecting apices. ~~The valve prosthesis can be compressed around the balloon means of the balloon catheter and be inserted in a channel, for instance in the aorta. When the valve prosthesis is placed correctly the balloon means is inflated thereby expanding the stent and wedging it against the wall of the aorta. The balloon means is provided with beads to ensure a steady fastening of the valve prosthesis on the balloon means during insertion and expansion. The valve prosthesis and the balloon catheter make it possible to insert a cardiac valve prosthesis without a surgical operation comprising opening the thoracic cavity.~~